

LEGENDS

Legend is one of the genres of folklore. Although it consists of imaginary stories, it is regarded as real by the speaker and the listener. Even the place and the time of the stories are indicated in the legend. Legends are constituted as the means of expression that was passed from mouth-to-mouth, people-to-people.

“TUMARIS” LEGEND

While the founder of Akhamoni State Kir II attacked Turan, Tumaris was governing massagets' tribe. As she was the wife of the Massagets' king, she governed the state after the death of her husband. At that time, massagets lived along Amudarya (Araks) and Kyzyl-Kum.

There were severe wars between conquerors from Iran and massagets. In the initial battle, massagets who were lead by Tumaris' son Sparangis achieved the victory. However, in the next battle, using unfair ways, the Persians jailed Sparangis and he committed a suicide, not tolerating the shame. Keeping her head after her son's death, Tumaris proposed Kir II to leave the country. Nevertheless, once Farsi King denied the proposal, there was a severe war between the two sides.

Ancient Greek historian Herodotus describes the details of the war between Persians and massagets as follows: "As far as I know, this war was much more devastating than the war between the Barbarians. Initially both armies shot each other from long distance. Once the arrows were over, they fought using spears and swords. The battle lasted for a very long time. Ultimately the massagets achieved the victory.

